Application No.: 10/564,761

Page 4

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A power-driven nailing machine comprising:

a driving cylinder;

a driving piston slidably housed within the driving cylinder;

a driver coupled with the driving piston;

a nose body having a discharge port; and

a contact nose arranged to be protrusively urged toward a leading end of the nose

body,

wherein the contact nose includes a leading end discharge port for guiding a nail

driven from the discharge port toward a work,

the leading end discharge port includes a guide portion longer than a maximum

sized nail.

2. (Original) The power-driven nailing machine according to claim 1, wherein the

contact nose further includes a cylindrical portion formed at its upper portion, and

a lower end of the nose body is housed in the cylindrical portion, and the contact

nose is held slidably along the discharge port of the nose body.

3. (Original) The power-driven nailing machine according to claim 1, wherein the

guide portion includes:

a straight guide portion formed at a leading end side of the leading end discharge

port; and

a tapered guide face formed above the straight guide portion and having an inner

diameter gradually increasing upward.

4. (Original) The power-driven nailing machine according to claim 1, wherein the

guide portion includes:

1-WA/2643442.1 4

Application No.: 10/564,761

Page 5

a first tapered guide portion formed at a leading end side of the leading end discharge port; and

a second tapered guide portion formed above the first tapered segment and having an inner diameter gradually increasing upward, and

wherein the first tapered guide portion is tapered with an inner diameter increasing from the leading end toward second tapered guide portion.

- 5. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 1, further comprising a trigger for activating the driving piston.
- 6. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 5, wherein the contact nose is movable relative to the nose body such that in one configuration the nose body blocks movement of the contact nose so that the trigger is actuated.
- 7. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 1, wherein the driving piston is driven by compressed air.
- 8. (New) A power-driven nailing machine adapted to drive at least one sized nail into a work piece comprising:

a driving cylinder with a longitudinal axis, including

a driving piston operable between first and second positions, the second position being spaced from the first position along the longitudinal axis, and

a driver having first and second ends, the first end being connected to the driving piston, the second end having a first outer dimension transverse to the longitudinal axis;

a nose body having third and fourth ends proximate the driving cylinder, the third end of the nose body being disposed between the driving cylinder and the fourth end of the nose body, the nose body including a first passage extending from the third end to the fourth end, the

5

Application No.: 10/564,761

Page 6

passage defining a first inner dimension transverse to the longitudinal axis of the driving cylinder, the first inner dimension being greater than the first outer dimension;

a nail supply mechanism disposed between the driving cylinder and the fourth end of the nose body such that the nail supply mechanism supplies the at least one sized nail to the nose body, the nail supply mechanism being configured and dimensioned to accommodate a maximum sized nail; and

a contact nose including a hollow member with proximal and distal ends, the hollow member defining inner and outer surfaces extending from the proximal end to the distal end, the fourth end of nose body being circumferentially received within the proximal end of the hollow member such that nose body is slidable relative to the hollow member between third and fourth positions, the second end resting on a first portion of the inner surface at the fourth position and being spaced from the first portion of the inner surface at the third position, the inner surface further including a guide portion disposed between the fourth position and the distal end, the guide portion being configured and dimensioned to form a radial enclosure about the maximum sized nail such that the radial enclosure aligns the at least one sized nail with the longitudinal axis of the driving cylinder before the driver pushes the at least one sized nail out the distal end of the contact nose into the work piece.

- 9. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 8, wherein the guide portion includes a tapered guide face.
- 10. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 9, wherein the radial enclosure has a straight guide portion.
- 11. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 10, further comprising a trigger such that actuating trigger causes the driving piston to move from the first position to the second position.

Application No.: 10/564,761

Page 7

12. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 11, wherein the contact nose is

movable relative to the nose body such that in one configuration the nose body blocks movement

of the contact nose to actuate the trigger.

13. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 11, further comprising a grip

connected to driving cylinder.

14. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 13, wherein the grip includes a

chamber for storing compressed air.

15. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 14, wherein the driving piston

is driven by compressed air from the chamber.

16. (New) The power-driven nailing machine of claim 8, wherein the driver extends

through the passage in the nose body and into the contact nose when the driving piston is in the

second position.